

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT **ANNUAL REPORT**



**Springfield
POLICE**



HEADQUARTERS:

321 E. Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, MO 65802



SOUTH DISTRICT STATION:

2620 W. Battlefield Rd.
Springfield, MO 65807

CONTACT US:

417-864-1810

SPDMail@SpringfieldMO.gov

QUICK FACTS:

FOUNDED:

1858

SWORN OFFICERS:

335

JURISDICTION SIZE:

82.31 sq. miles

JURISDICTION POPULATION:

168,122



COVER PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AKINS
DESIGN BY REBECCA PFITZNER

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

2020—a year unlike any other.

How many times did you hear such things as “I can’t wait for this year to be over” or “Can we just forget 2020?” or “Let’s skip 2020 and move on.”

For the Springfield Police Department 2020 was a unique, challenging, and tragic time. We began the year making the long-anticipated transition to reporting and tracking crime via the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Our department, like everyone else, experienced the unexpected impact of the global

pandemic brought on by COVID-19 starting in March and continuing throughout the year. Not only was SPD affected on an operational level, but our staff was affected personally as well.

Our police family lost one of our own when Officer Chris Walsh was killed during a mass shooting incident which also claimed the lives of three of our fellow citizens. This tragic event triggered the deadliest year ever in Springfield history as 2020 ended with 28 violent deaths (including 22 murders) and 29 traffic fatalities.

The negative narrative surrounding the law enforcement profession on a national scale due to events far from Springfield resonated with our citizens. This led to positive (i.e. peaceful protests, enhanced dialogue) and challenging (e.g. 50% reduction in police recruits) results.

In June, the unprovoked and unconscionable attack on Officer Mark Priebe in front of SPD Headquarters, that resulted in life-altering injuries, compounded the stress, trauma and grief experienced by the entire department.

Through it all, the men and women who have accepted the call to serve and protect the citizens of Springfield did just that—every day, without fail. They did so professionally, while respecting the rights of others and exhibiting empathy and concern in each interaction. I am proud and honored to know them—and you should be too.

The following pages highlight the highs and lows, the good and bad, the triumph and tragedy, and I remain hopeful the end of 2020 means those dark days are behind us. So, rather than forget 2020—I’d ask that you take a few moments and reflect on the year that was, through the eyes of the SPD.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Williams,
Chief of Police



“Rather than forget 2020 – I’d ask you to take a few moments and reflect on the year that was, through the eyes of SPD.”

Follow Chief Williams on Twitter
@CHIEF_SPD

FOLLOW SPD
ON SOCIAL MEDIA



POLICE ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENTS



MAJOR VANCE HOLLAND

Uniform Operations



PAUL WILLIAMS

Police Chief



MAJOR TAD PETERS

Investigations & Support Services



CAPTAIN CULLEY WILSON

Zone 1 Commander



CAPTAIN FRED BECK

Zone 2 Commander



CAPTAIN STACEY PARTON

Criminal Investigations



CAPTAIN ERIC REECE

Support Services

UNIFORM OPERATIONS BUREAU

- **PATROL DIVISION:** Responds to calls for service
- **TRAFFIC SECTION:** Traffic and DWI enforcement
- **SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM**
- **K9 UNIT**
- **COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION:**
 - Police Area Representatives
 - Crime Prevention
 - Special Events
 - Center City Patrol
 - MSU and Drury Substations

INVESTIGATIONS & SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

- **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION:** Investigates crimes and sends completed reports to appropriate prosecutor for the filing of criminal charges
 - Persons Crimes Section
 - Property Crimes Section
 - Special Investigations Section
- **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION:** Support operations: crime analysis, standards, policy, accreditation
 - Training Section
 - Records Section
 - Support Operations Section

STAFFING, BUDGET AND FLEET

AUTHORIZED SWORN RANK (AS OF DEC. 2020)



CHIEF
1



MAJOR
2



CAPTAIN
4



LIEUTENANT
13



SERGEANT
36



CORPORAL
45



OFFICER
267

ACTUAL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (AS OF DEC. 2020)

SWORN
OFFICERS
335

NON-SWORN
STAFF
72

2020 BUDGET

\$80,941,039 → **35.63%**

City of Springfield
General Fund Budget
for 2020

Percentage of General Fund
Budget used for the Police
Department in 2020

\$28,841,292

Police Department
General Fund Budget
for 2020

\$42,179,110

Total Police
Department Budget
(all funds included)

FLEET MANAGEMENT



MARKED SUVs
79



MARKED SEDANS
66



POLICE MOTORCYCLES
12

SPD patrols the city of Springfield using both Ford Police Interceptor Utility SUVs and Ford Police Interceptor Sedans. These vehicles are utilized by the more than 250 patrol and traffic officers at SPD. Each vehicle contains the necessary equipment officers need while working, from computers and dash cameras to first aid kits and AEDs. Each vehicle is driven about 17,000 miles a year.

SPD has 12 Harley Davidson Road King motorcycles. They are used by motorcycle-certified officers in SPD's Traffic Unit who conduct traffic control activities and respond to traffic crashes. Motorcycle officers also assist at community events.

Outside of Patrol and Traffic, the department also manages a fleet of a specialty vehicles used in various ways. Some of those vehicles include the Special Response Team's Bearcat, Mobile Command Resource Vehicle, and the Major Crime Investigation van.



2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

NEW EQUIPMENT

BODY-WORN CAMERA FUNDING

In October 2020, Springfield City Council unanimously passed a bill approving funding for all uniformed Springfield Police Officers to be outfitted with body-worn cameras by early 2021.



NARCAN

All officers began carrying Narcan, an emergency medication used to rapidly reverse opioid overdoses. The life-saving drug is provided by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department.



TOURNIQUETS

Officers now carry tourniquets on their duty belts. Previously, tourniquets were solely stored in patrol cars. The new tools were provided by CoxHealth, and the Springfield Police Foundation awarded the SPD a grant to provide each officer with a tourniquet holder.



NEW PROGRAMS

VICTIM ADVOCATES

In April 2020, SPD welcomed two new in-house victim advocates. The Victim Center employs one advocate and Harmony House employs the other, but both are housed at SPD and work directly with police personnel to serve victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.



ALERT STICKERS

The new emergency alert sticker program began in October and provides Springfield citizens with free stickers. The stickers aim to notify first responders that an occupant of a home or vehicle may have specialized needs that could create a barrier to communication.



PATROL PACK

The Patrol Pack Program began in October through a partnership with Convoy of Hope. Each pack contains non-perishable food items that are given out at officer discretion as they go to calls for service throughout the community.



NIBRS

In 2020, the Springfield Police Department began recording crime reports differently, and more thoroughly. The new system, administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), called the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), allows for a more comprehensive look at crime by the numbers. This change will help the community better understand what types of crime occur in the city. The data will also assist officers with focusing crime prevention efforts.

SPD made the move in January 2020, in advance of a mandate by the FBI, which requires participating agencies to transition to the new system by 2021. The previous system, called Summary Reporting System (SRS), was the national standard for more than 80 years. Under SRS, if a series of crimes were committed in one incident (such as a burglary that ended in a homicide) only the most serious crime, in this example a homicide, would be reported to the FBI. Now, with NIBRS, every crime in an incident is reported.

NIBRS tracks 52 types of crimes compared to SRS, which only tracked eight types of crimes.



COVID-19 IMPACT

The COVID-19 pandemic created unique challenges for SPD that required significant adaptability. Initial precautions included equipping all staff with personal protective equipment, including face masks, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes. When able, officers also took care to provide adequate distancing from citizens while responding to calls. During the Stay-at-Home Order, officers were responsible for ensuring that ordinance restrictions were followed. Those duties continued through the year, as officers responded to more than 1,500 calls for Masking Ordinance violations.

Staffing became a considerable hurdle as the COVID-19 virus spread through SPD. More than 100 employees tested positive and many more were quarantined for exposures. The lack of available staff



affected all aspects of SPD operations, increasing workload for detectives, patrol officers, and traffic officers, as well as suspending police academy instruction. The Records Section was also substantially impacted, forcing the SPD Headquarters lobby to shut down to the public for two consecutive days and the South District Station lobby to close indefinitely.

Precautions against the spread of COVID-19 also affected SPD's efforts to connect in person with the community. Programs like National Night Out, the Junior Police and Fire Academy and SPD in PE were canceled or suspended. However, through innovation and the use of technology, other programs like Coffee with the Chief, Neighborhood Watch training and the Citizens Police Academy were able to safely continue.

STAFF COVID-19 TESTING



SUPPLIES ORDERED BY SPD SUPPORT OPERATIONS SERVICES



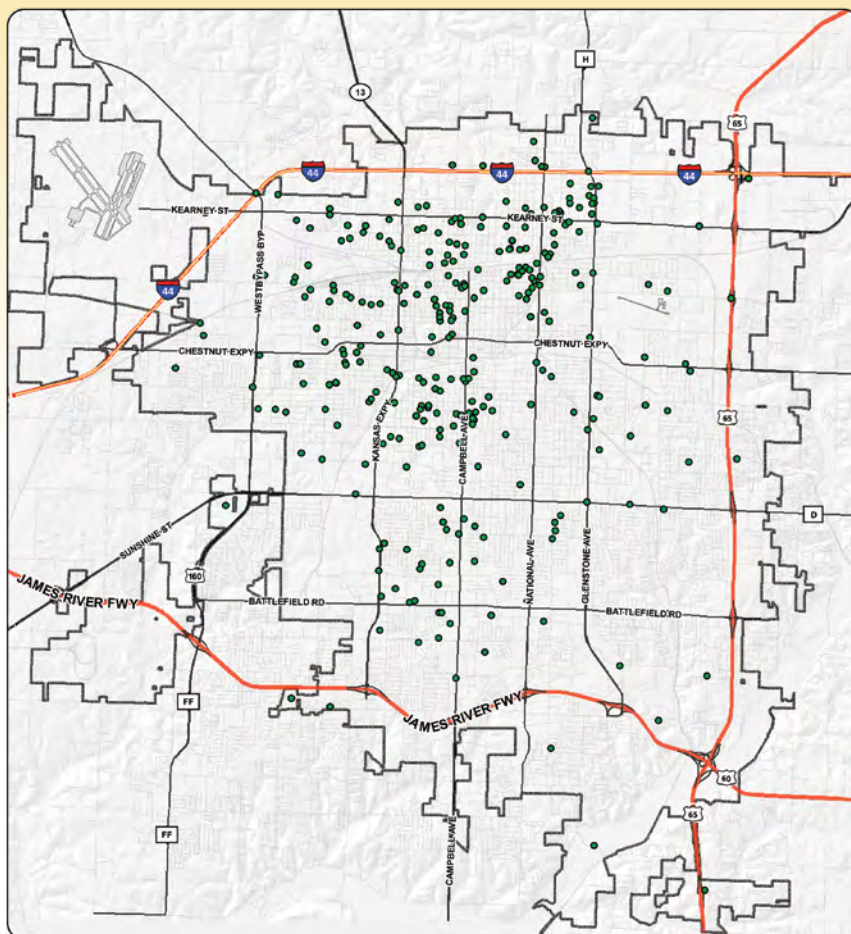
GUN VIOLENCE IN 2020



SHOTS HEARD CALLS VS. SHOTS FIRED REPORTS

Shots Heard calls indicate the occurrence of 911 calls from citizens who believe they may have heard a gunshot. When officers arrive on scene, they will look for evidence that a firearm was discharged (property damage, shell casings, witnesses, victims, etc.). If evidence is discovered, they will write a Shots Fired report. Many times, the caller is only able to provide broad information as to the direction of the gunshot, which isn't enough information to assist officers in the discovery of evidence.

SHOTS FIRED 2020



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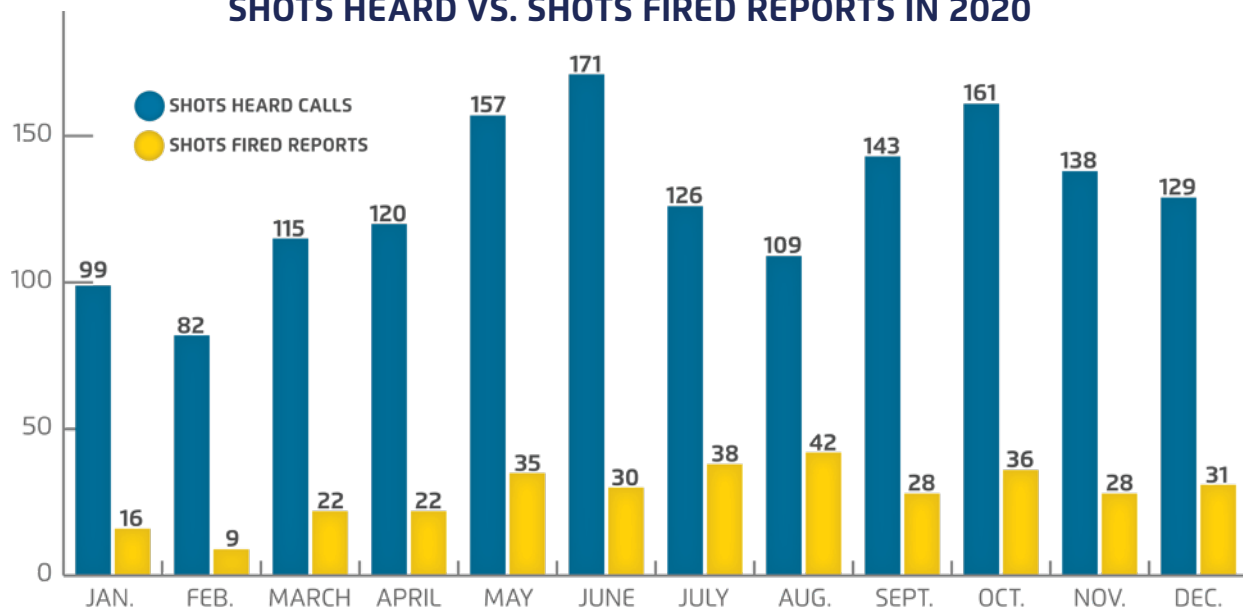


Shots Fired Jan 2020 - Dec 2020



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

SHOTS HEARD VS. SHOTS FIRED REPORTS IN 2020

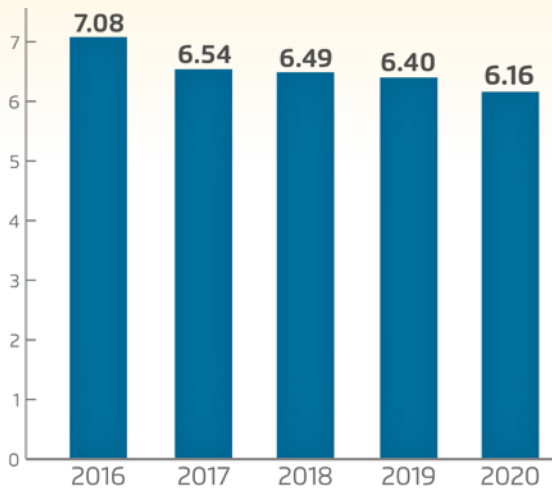


UNIFORM OPERATIONS BUREAU

• PATROL DIVISION

Springfield Patrol Officers are the first to arrive on scene to start investigations and are the most visible of our efforts to protect and serve the community. In 2020, there were 168 officers assigned to SPD's Patrol Division who performed a wide variety of functions, but their main role is to patrol the streets of Springfield, focusing their efforts on a specific area of the city, or beat, to prevent crime and answer calls for service.

**PRIORITY 1 MEDIAN RESPONSE TIME
YEARLY COMPARISON (MINUTES)**



AVERAGE CALL RESPONSE TIME:

- Priority 1:
6 Min. 16 Sec.
- Priority 2:
9 Min. 35 Sec.
- Priority 3:
16 Min. 39 Sec.

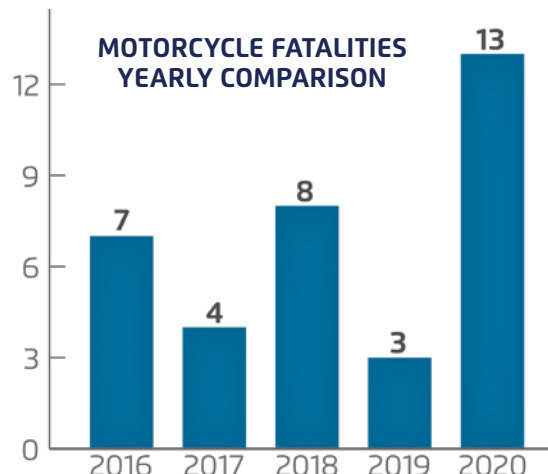
Priority 1: A life-threatening situation or where serious injuries are believed to exist, and immediate police response is necessary.

• TRAFFIC SECTION

The Traffic Section is responsible for the safety of the drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians in Springfield. The Traffic Section also conducts follow-up investigations on all vehicle-related fatalities. The section is divided into three different squads. Squad 1 and Squad 2 work during the day hours and Squad 3 works the evening hours and focuses on the detection of impaired drivers.

In 2020, Springfield saw a record number of motorcycle wrecks. As a response, the Traffic Section oversaw the inception of the Civilian Motorcycle Safety grant which funded the development of a motorcycle safety training course for citizens. The course is instructed by motorcycle-certified SPD Traffic Officers and the grant covers the cost of the instructors and advertising of the courses. In 2020, the Traffic Section also oversaw the process of obtaining a Pedestrian HMV (Hazardous Moving Violations) Enforcement grant to help reduce pedestrian-related accidents and increase driver awareness of pedestrian-associated city and state laws.

**MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES
YEARLY COMPARISON**



PATROL DIVISION BY THE NUMBERS

Number of Calls for Service:

125,422

Most frequent Calls for Service in 2020:

- Check-Well Being
- Check Person
- General Disturbance
- Domestic Disturbance



TRAFFIC SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

Total Traffic Stops:

21,627

Traffic Violation Citations:

12,376

Parking Violation Citations:

1,941

Motor Vehicle Crashes Investigated:

4,165

Impaired Drivers Arrested:

616

TOTAL FATALITIES: **27**

- Pedestrian Fatalities: **5**
- Motorcycle Fatalities: **13**



• SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM AND K9 UNIT

The SPD Special Response Team (SRT) is a tactical team whose primary mission is to save lives. The team is comprised of officers who have been selected through a physically and mentally challenging selection process.

These officers possess a specific set of skills, abilities and techniques to safely resolve hostage situations, high risk arrest situations, search warrant service and any other tasks as needed. SPD has a full-time SRT (Red) team which is supplemented with an on-call (Blue) team of officers assigned to other primary roles until needed for an incident or training.

K9 UNIT

The SRT is complimented by the SPD Police Service Dog Unit of highly trained and effective K9 teams. The assigned officer and their canine partner work a varied schedule to assist patrol units with narcotics detection, building and area searches for offenders in hiding, tracking suspects or locating lost and missing persons, among other tasks. At SPD the K9 unit conducts training and certification programs in-house, which saves training funds and enhances overall training availability.



SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM & K9 UNIT BY THE NUMBERS

Red Team: 7 Officers

Blue Team: 19 Officers

K9 Unit: 6 Officers

SRT STATISTICS

- Search Warrants Served: **53**
- Search Warrants Planned but Not Served: **20**
- Barricades: **10**
- Hostage Situations: **1**
- Man Hunts: **0**
- Threat Assessments/ Special Events: **13**

K9 STATISTICS

- K9 Deployments: **512**
- Narcotics Finds: **70**
- Persons Finds: **33**

*Narcotics/person finds resulted in **40 felony arrests** and **Five misdemeanor arrests**.*

• COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION

The Community Services Section (CSS) is a specialized unit that serves as a liaison throughout the city for businesses and citizens. This section consists of three patrol squads assigned to the downtown area, Police Area Representatives (PAR), Crime Prevention Officers, Drury University substation and Missouri State University substation.

The Police Area Representatives (PAR) officers are assigned to separate geographic areas in the city to resolve community concerns. They receive complaints regarding criminal activity and conduct follow-up investigations.

In 2020, the Community Services Section had to respond in various ways to the changes the pandemic brought to the unit. Thirty-four special events were cancelled, and three events moved to a virtual platform. Modifications were made to in-person events, including capacity limitations, social distancing and requiring facial coverings. Community meetings were modified and held via conference call.

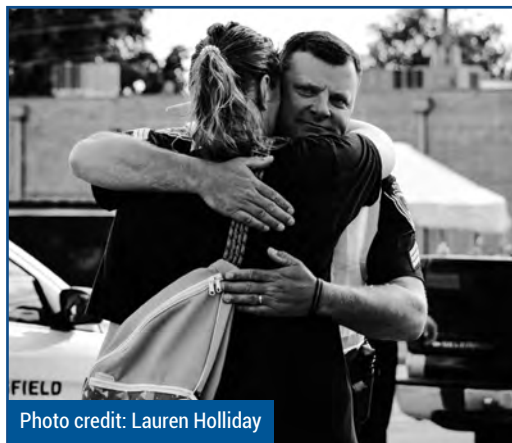


Photo credit: Lauren Holliday

COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

Events Worked in Springfield: 21

Citizen Service Requests: 1,347

Search Warrants Conducted: 8

Neighborhood Watch Groups: 16

Apartment Watch Groups: 7



INVESTIGATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

• PERSONS CRIME SECTION

The Springfield Police Department Criminal Investigations Division – Persons Crime Section consists of four units:

- **Violent Crime Unit**
- **Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit**
- **Domestic Violence Unit**
- **Special Victims Unit**

The Violent Crime Unit investigates all non-domestic assaults, missing adults, homicides and robberies. The Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit investigates crimes against children and crimes facilitated through computers and other electronic devices.

In 2020, Springfield saw a significant uptick in violent crimes, increasing detective caseload and setting a record with 28 violent deaths (including 22 murders).

Two new in-house victim advocates were welcomed to the Persons Crimes Section in 2020. The Victim Center employs one advocate and Harmony House employs the other, but both are housed at SPD and work directly with police personnel to serve victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

PERSONS CRIME SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

AVERAGE MONTHLY CASE LOAD PER DETECTIVE

- Violent Crime Unit: **58**
- Special Victims Unit: **24**
- Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit: **45**
- Domestic Violence Unit: **59**

PROCESSED BY FORENSIC UNIT

- Computers: **154**
- Mobile Devices: **391**
- Other Devices: **282**



The Major Crime Investigation (MCI) van is used by SPD's Homicide Response Team (HRT), which is responsible for the collection and preservation of physical evidence at all homicide and life-threatening assaults. The van contains state-of-the-art equipment that assists in the collection of forensic evidence.

• PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION

The Property Crimes Section of the Criminal Investigations Division is divided into three separate units that strive to present strong cases against those responsible for general property crimes, financial crimes, and vehicle theft. In 2020, thanks to funding from the Level Property Tax, interior renovations were completed at the former Springfield Mill and Lumber Building. The space now houses the Property Crimes Section.

During the year, the COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on the overall health and daily operations of the section. In the final quarter of 2020, 17 of the 24 SPD employees assigned to the section tested positive for the virus and were forced to isolate themselves for an average of 12 days. This shortage in staffing resulted in a delay, and unavoidable reduction, in the number of cases being assigned for follow-up.

2020 saw an extreme uptick in catalytic converter thefts. Detectives believe the auto parts are being stolen and sold for the valuable metals inside. The Property Crimes Unit has assigned detectives to work specially on this issue in coordination with area agencies.

**CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS
YEARLY COMPARISON**



PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

CASES REVIEWED

- General Property Crimes: **11,950**
- Financial Crimes: **6,927**
- Vehicle Theft: **3,964**

CASES ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATORS FOR FOLLOW-UP

- General Property Crimes: **846**
- Financial Crimes: **539**
- Vehicle Theft: **628**

AVERAGE MONTHLY CASE LOAD FOR DETECTIVES

- General Property Crime Detective: **17**
- Financial Crimes Detective: **18**
- Vehicle Theft Detective: **15**

• SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

The Special Investigations Section (SIS) primarily focuses on drug and weapons-related crimes. 2020 presented unique challenges for the section, especially related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since SIS primarily works proactive cases, most statistical numbers went down in 2020.

However, in 2020 their **federal case load increased** by 46% (133 cases), they also made 231 felony arrests and conducted 71 search warrants. 2020 also saw a large **spike in reported overdoses** (nearly 400) and over **30 overdose deaths**. SIS investigated those deaths and presented two cases to the United States Attorney's Office.



	GUNS SEIZED
2016	144
2017	181
2018	212
2019	283
2020	88

	DRUGS SEIZED	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	Marijuana (ounces)	2,911.25	3,224.09	5,587.97	1,219.2	1,448.06
	Meth (ounces)	910.72	1,190.19	513.22	932.8	371.93
	Cocaine (grams)	1,664.7	184.9	415	399.16	166
	Heroin (grams)	4,060.57	1,579.46	938.65	2,703.41	1,927

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

• SUPPORT OPERATIONS SECTION

The Springfield Police Department's Support Operation Section includes:

- **Crime Analysis Unit (CAU)**
- **Research and Development Unit (R&D)**
- **Policy and Accreditation Unit**
- **Fleet Services and Quartermaster unit.**

Each unit plays an integral role in supporting and maintaining day-to-day operations at the police department.

The mission of the Crime Analysis and R&D units is Criminal Intelligence Management.

The analytical process for the **Crime Analysis Unit** involves the review, analysis, and development of source documents and crime data. Each analyst is assigned a specific crime type (or more than one) for which they are primarily responsible. Utilizing knowledge developed through training and experience they work on their own, or with detectives assigned to the same types of crimes, to develop the information into actionable intelligence.

Research and Development is responsible for compiling the information and presenting documented analysis to assist in the management and decision-making processes of the Police Department.

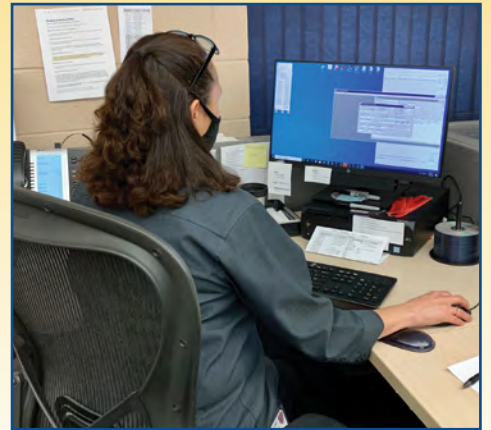
The **Policy and Accreditation Unit** works to ensure that the Springfield Police Department maintains the highest standards of service through the implementation of internal policies and guidelines based off internationally recognized policing standards, established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

The **Fleet Services and Quartermaster Unit** is responsible for all the Police Department's vehicles and equipment. The unit equips and tracks vehicles, ensuring that they are serviced regularly and operationally ready, and obtains and maintains all department issued equipment from the individual duty gear to computers and cameras in cars. In 2020, COVID-19 had a major impact on the Fleet Services Unit. Without warning, more supplies were needed as less supplies were available for purchase. Items that the department required a minimal supply of in the past were suddenly in very high demand. Several other supplies were in high demand and hard to find such as hand sanitizer, disinfecting hand and surface wipes, and disinfecting spray. Fortunately, various community partners and citizens were able to make donations of some of these items and with ingenuity and some "outside of the box" thinking, the department was protected from COVID-19 to the best of the division's ability.



• RECORDS SECTION AND PROPERTY ROOM

The Records Section of SPD is comprised of a team of non-sworn employees known as Police Services Representatives, or PSRs. The Records Section is staffed 24/7 and provides support services to department personnel and the citizens of Springfield. Records PSRs are responsible for a variety of essential functions including, but not limited to, taking police reports from citizens via phone or in person, processing documents for distribution to local courts, filling Sunshine requests, and submitting our National Incident Based Reporting System crime data to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.



In 2020, the Records Section experienced significant staffing shortages. Those staffing shortages were compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, forcing the SPD Headquarters lobby to shut down to the public for two consecutive days. Other unintended consequences that resulted were the closure of the South District Station lobby located on West Battlefield Road, which remained closed through the year, and the reduction of public hours of operation in the headquarters lobby.

PSRs assigned to the Property and Evidence Unit are responsible for maintaining chain of custody and storing all found and evidentiary items collected and submitted by SPD officers. The Property and Evidence Unit also experienced staffing struggles in 2020. The number of items submitted to the Property and Evidence Unit decreased in 2020, however overall inventory increased by approximately 9%. This increase was due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions which prevented trips to external sites to dispose of items no longer required for investigative purposes.

• TRAINING SECTION

The Training Section operates the Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center (SRPFTC) and is certified through the Missouri Department of Public Safety's Peace Officer Standards and Training Program (POST). The training staff is responsible for various training programs including the Police Academy, In-Service Training, conducts numerous departmental training courses and hosts outside specialized training and education opportunities for police officers throughout Southwest Missouri. The Training Section is also responsible for department recruiting efforts as well as coordinating and managing volunteer activities (VIPS), such as the Chaplain Program, the Cadet Program and the Citizens Police Academy.



Fortunately, in 2020 all required **in-service training** for current officers, was completed with precautionary measures in place. However, 2020 brought unique challenges for recruitment, as in-person recruiting events were cancelled. Some recruiting was conducted via virtual career fairs and "drive up" recruiting events.

In 2020, training for the **Springfield Police Academy** was delayed due to recruits contracting COVID-19 or having to quarantine after exposures. Several classes were conducted via zoom. On July 10, 2020, 13 new Springfield Police Officers graduated with the 72nd Police Academy: Clifford Blankenship, Emily Clayton, Holly Counts, Trey Ferneau, Chanavor Hocklander, Wyatt Holdman, Jonathan McBain, Logan Sayre, Darryn Schertz, Sterling Thedell, Julinn Torres, Nathan Weekley and Kaslyn Yakle.

CITIZEN PROGRAMS

• CADET PROGRAM

The Springfield Police Cadet Program is designed for high school students between 16 and 20 years old. The program aims to prepare the cadets for a career in law enforcement while supplementing the resources of the department. Each cadet must complete the cadet academy consisting of eight weeks of training totaling over 45 hours.

In 2020, the program continued to meet with masking and social distancing. However, ride-a-longs for cadets were suspended as a precautionary measure against the spread of COVID-19.



• CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

SPD's Citizens Police Academy is held annually, and participants are required to complete 30 hours of instruction over 10 weeks. The instruction covers a variety of topics such as police policies, organizational structure, SPD History, investigative processes, tactics, and the challenges involved in providing a safe community.

The goal of the academy is to give citizens a better understanding of how the Police Department functions and what challenges officers face when working to serve the community. In 2020, the program continued with COVID-19 precautionary measures, and a record number of citizens applied to attend.



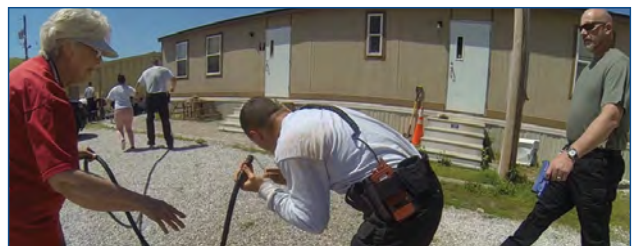
• CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

SPD's Chaplain Program consists of eight chaplains who volunteer hundreds of hours a year. In 2020, the SPD Chaplains were an important support to the department as officers grieved the loss of fallen Officer Chris Walsh, who was killed in the line of duty on March 16.



• VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

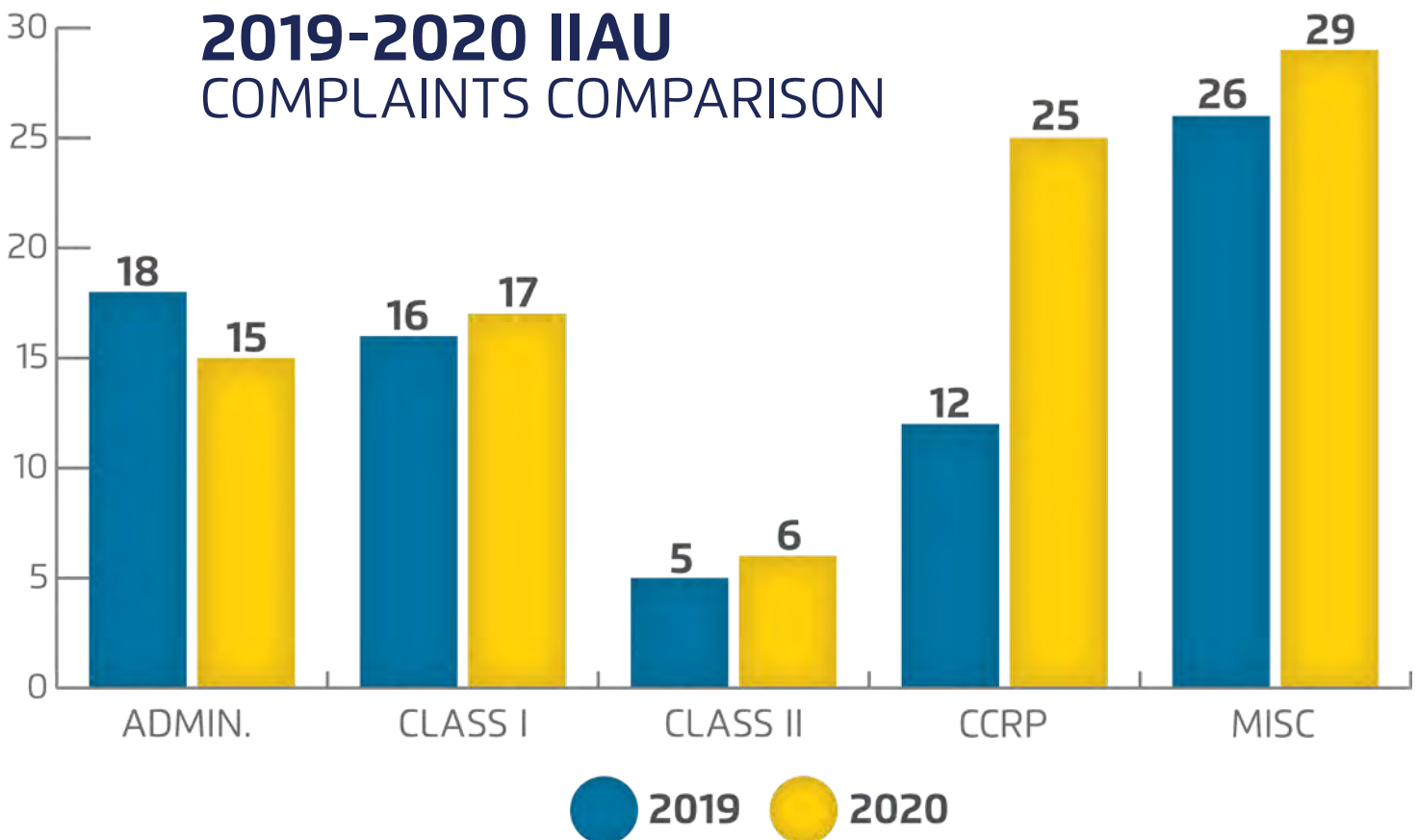
Volunteers are a valuable asset to SPD and assist in a wide range of duties. Volunteer positions include HEAT/MAP (Handicapped Enforcement Action Team and Motorist Assist Program) and the internship program. Both programs were suspended in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.



INSPECTIONS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Inspections and Internal Affairs Unit (IIAU) is responsible for tracking and investigating complaints of misconduct against SPD employees. The unit maintains records on a variety of incidents, including disciplinary actions taken, vehicle pursuits, use of force and vehicle accidents involving on-duty SPD employees. In addition, this unit conducts internal audits, inspections of cash funds and evidence, as well as background checks for the City of Springfield related to certain licensing applications.

Complaints received by IIAU are classified as one of five types: Class I, Class II, Administrative, Miscellaneous and CCRP (Citizen Complaint Resolution Process). **Class I** complaints are the most serious external complaints (i.e. criminal violation, excessive force), while **Class II** complaints are based on less severe policy violations (i.e. discourtesy, improper procedure). **Administrative** complaints are complaints initiated from within the police department. Other complaints are classified as **Miscellaneous**, as determined by the Chief of Police (i.e. dispute over guilt or innocence of the complainant, no allegation of misconduct, not involving SPD employees). Complaints classified as **CCRP** involve a face-to-face meeting with the complainant, the subject of the allegation, and the employee's supervisor.



IIAU received a total of 92 complaints in 2020, which represents a **19.5% increase** in the overall number of complaints compared to 2019.

PROMOTIONS AND RETIREMENTS

PROMOTIONS

MAJOR

- Captain Tad Peters

CAPTAIN

- Lt. Eric Reece
- Lt. Culley Wilson
- Lt. Fred Beck

LIEUTENANT

- Sgt. Tonya Price
- Sgt. Mark Foos
- Sgt. Jeremy Anderson
- Sgt. Dustin Martin
- Sgt. Bryan Welch

SERGEANT

- Cpl. Christina Flood
- Cpl. Ben Haines
- Cpl. Chris Nuccio
- Cpl. Jennifer Sandage
- Officer Brandon Penrose
- Cpl. Chris Rasmussen
- Officer Scott Hill
- Cpl. Matt Farmer
- Cpl. Jason Trusler
- Cpl. Michael Karnes
- Cpl. Aaron Cassity
- Cpl. David Kenyon

CORPORAL

- Officer Michael Ramsey
- Officer Brandon Keene
- Officer Kyle Campbell
- Officer Jason Copley
- Officer Jason Kitta
- Officer Wes Harbin
- Officer Stephen Layton
- Officer Joshua McMullin
- Officer Gil Correa
- Officer Jonathan Miller
- Officer Kyle Powers

RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COORDINATOR

- Terri Sue Bill

POLICE SERVICES SUPERVISOR

- Erin Carson
- Kyler Small

POLICE SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE II

- Daniel Yepsen
- Williams Evans
- Kyler Small

RETIREMENTS

- Major Greg Higdon, 25 years
- Captain Chad Eutsler, 25 years
- Captain Kevin Grizzell, 25 years
- Lt. Mark Schindler, 25 years
- Lt. Chris Wells, 25 years
- Sgt. Jason Bisby, 25 years
- Sgt. Brian Crum, 25 years
- Sgt. Justin Gargus, 25 years
- Sgt. David Stone, 25 years
- Sgt. Brian Reeves, 23 years
- Sgt. Greg McKinney, 18 years
- Cpl. Chris Welsh, 25 years
- Cpl. Chad White, 24 years
- Cpl. James Hinkle, 20 years
- Officer Bill Miletello, 16 years
- Traffic Service Officer
Regina Maldonado, 35 years
- Police Service Representative
Julie White, 21 years
- Police Service Representative
Susan Pointer, 18 years
- Police Service Representative
Melody Saul, 14 years
- Administrative Assistant
Mary Snow, 16 years
- Police Service Dog Rocky, 9 years
- Police Service Dog Charlie, 6 years



AWARDS

CITIZEN COMMENDATION

- Ms. Megan Devito

CITIZEN SERVICE MEDAL

- Mr. Colin Cottengim
- Mr. Steven Edmonds
- Mr. Jared Merriman
- Mr. Daniel Rowe



COMMAND COMMENDATION

- Sgt. Michael Karnes
- Cpl. Kaylee Friend
- Cpl. Will Hill
- Cpl. Rod Noble
- Cpl. Joshua Steele
- Officer Amy Zimmerman
- Battalion Chief Brian Athen
- Public Affairs Officer Jasmine Bailey



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

- Cpl. Shawn McClure
- Officer Sean Kelly
- Officer Andrew Zinke



LIFE SAVING AWARD

- Cpl. Gil Correa
- Officer James Luttrell



MEDAL OF VALOR – SILVER

- Cpl. Clinton Collier
- Officer Robert Douglas
- Officer Austin Faulconer
- Officer Trevor Merckling
- Officer Yeng Xiong



MEDAL OF VALOR – GOLD

- Officer Josiah Overton
- Officer Christopher Walsh



PURPLE HEART

- Officer Josiah Overton
- Officer Christopher Walsh



POLICE CROSS

- Officer Christopher Walsh



SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2019 LETR JOHN MICHAEL LETZ AWARD

• Officer Mark Priebe

Officer Mark Priebe was honored with the Special Olympics 2019 LETR John Michael Letz Award, the highest honor given within the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Missouri. He was honored for his commitment and motivation to helping Special Olympic athletes for more than 13 years. Despite suffering life-threatening injuries in June 2020, Officer Priebe has continued to serve as a dedicated volunteer with Special Olympics.



IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER RYAN WALSH

EOW MARCH 16, 2020

Springfield Police Officer Christopher Ryan Walsh was killed in the line of duty on March 16, 2020 while responding to an active shooting call at a local gas station. Officer Walsh was among the first to arrive on scene where he was immediately fired upon by the suspect. Three citizens also tragically lost their lives in the shooting, Troy Rapp, Shannon Perkins, and Matthew Hicks-Morris, and two others, including Springfield Police Officer Josiah Overton, were severely injured.



Officer Walsh served with the Springfield Police Department since 2016 and was assigned as a patrol officer after graduating with the 68th Academy. He was also an Army veteran, active in the US Army Reserves for 10 years.

Officer Walsh was a Springfield native. He graduated from Glendale High School before attending Ozark Technical Community College where he completed the EMT-B course.

Officer Walsh was 32 years old when he died. He is survived by his wife and daughter.



March 21, 2020, Officer Walsh's funeral service. Photo Credit: Nathan Papes/Springfield News-Leader



This image was taken during the procession that escorted Officer Walsh to be laid to rest. It stretched for miles and hundreds of community members lined the streets to pay their respects. Photo Credit: Nathan Papes/Springfield News-Leader

In March 2020, a tree was planted in honor of Officer Walsh at the Springfield Police Department South District Station.



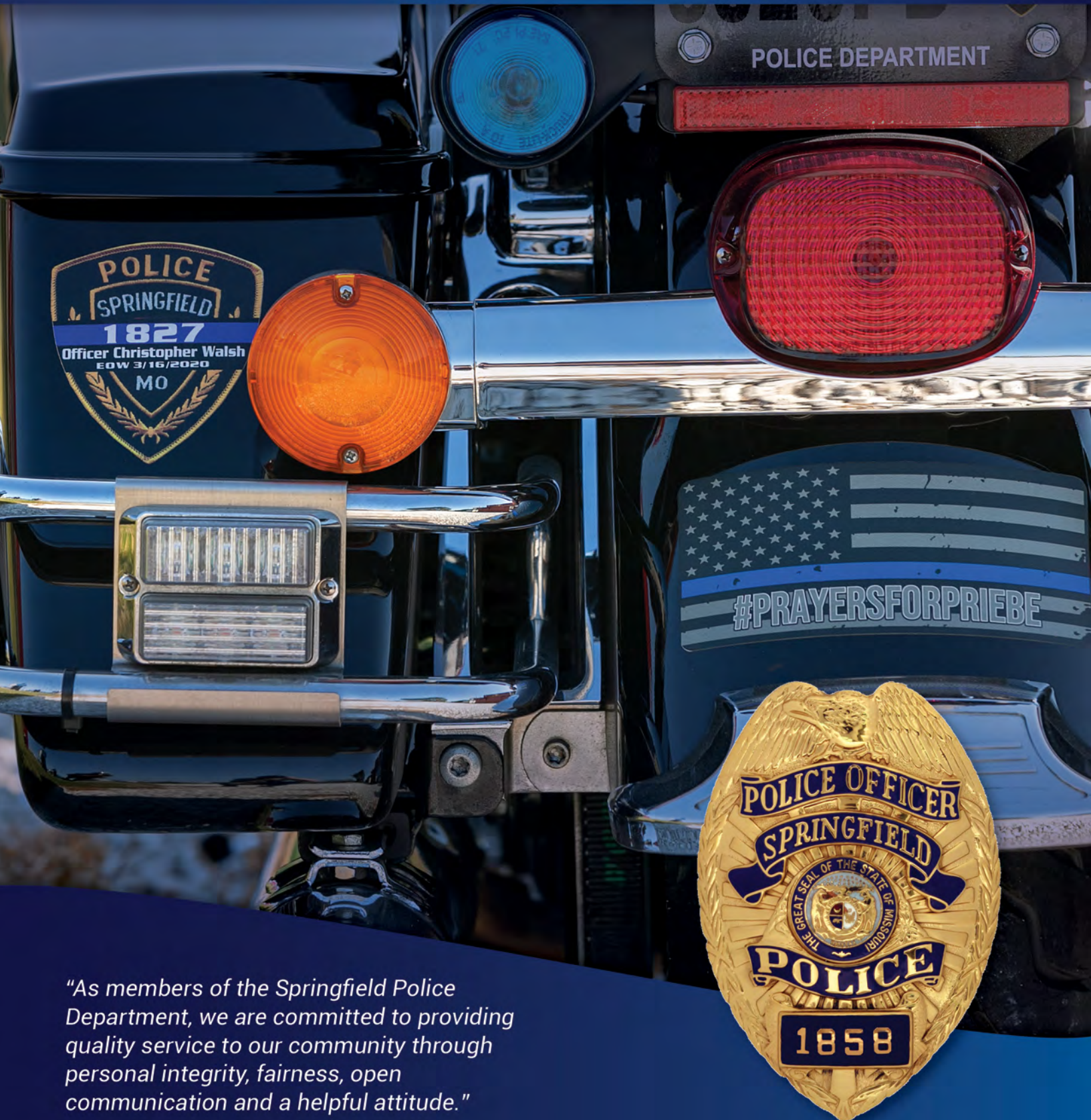
Pictured is the memorial monument that sits outside of Springfield Police Headquarters. The monument holds the engravings of the names of all Springfield Police Officers killed in the line of duty since 1871. On March 16, 2021, the one-year anniversary of Officer Walsh's EOW, his name will be added to the monument.



Stickers honoring the sacrifice and memory of Officer Walsh were placed on SPD vehicles.



Springfield POLICE



"As members of the Springfield Police Department, we are committed to providing quality service to our community through personal integrity, fairness, open communication and a helpful attitude."